

Amendments to the Specification

Amend the second full paragraph on page 3 (page 3, lines 8-13) to read as follows:

Fingerprinting is a computer-assisted process that compares aired program material to material that is already ~~elassified~~ classified and stored in a database; when a match is made, the program owner is paid. A potential drawback of conventional fingerprinting is that the large amount of computer processing and “number crunching” power (and elapsed time) necessary to detect and crosscheck reported usage against a database of fingerprints.

Amend the last paragraph on page 7 (page 7, lines 13-21) to read as follows:

In a typical sequence of events which employs the present secure tracking system, the originator of a film or video project who has contracted with the registering authority takes a newly created program and submits it for registration certification 002. This entails processing the program to watermark and fingerprint it, and submitting an application which includes title, ownership and various other data. It can be submitted from, e.g., the production company, from a studio, from a post production house, or from a closed captioning facility, among other entities. The registering authority processes the application, checking it for correct formatting, lack of conflict with previously registered programming, and if all is in order it issues a ~~certification~~ certification back to the applicant 004.